

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CARACA 03100 192124Z

21

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 CU-02

/057 W

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R 192023Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8075

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS VE

SUBJ: STUDENTS PROTEST INADEQUATE SCHOOL FACILITIES

1. ANGERED BY INADEQUATE SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND LACK OF BASIC SCHOOL EQUIPMENT AND ALSO EXHILIRATED BY THE PROSPECT OF THE HOLY WEEK VACATION BEGINNING NEXT WEEK, STUDENTS IN A NUMBER OF LOCALITIES THROUGHOUT VENEZUELA FOR THE PAST WEEK OR SO HAVE BEEN STAGING PROTEST DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST DEFICIENT EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

LEFTIST STUDENT GROUPS HAVE BEEN EXPLOITING THIS STUDENT DISCONTENT, SOME OF WHICH SEEMS TO BE JUSTIFIED.

2. ON MARCH 17 FEDERAL DISTRICT GOVERNOR DIEGO ARRIA ANNOUNCED THAT DEMONSTRATIONS PLANNED IN CARACAS FOR MARCH 18 AND POSSIBLY LATER THIS WEEK WERE NOT AUTHORIZED. POLICE BROKE UP TWO OR THREE MINOR DEMONSTRATIONS IN CARACAS MARCH 18, CONCENTRATING ON PREVENTING DAMAGE TO PROPERTY, ESPECIALLY BUSES, BUT CAREFULLY AVOIDING CONFRONTATION WITH THE PROTESTERS.

3. ON MARCH 18 STUDENTS IN SAN CRISTOBAL, STATE OF TACHIRA, REPORTEDLY BURNED A U.S. FLAG AND PROTESTED THE APPOINTMENT OF HARRY SHLAUDEMAN AS U.S. AMBASSADOR TO VENEZUELA. IN AN ATTEMPT TO GRAB PUBLICITY FOR THE DEMONSTRATIONS, SOME LEFTIST STUDENT LEADERS HAVE SOUGHT TO INVOLVE THE CIA IN THE STUDENT PROTESTS, BUT SO FAR

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WITHOUT MUCH SUCCESS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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